Attorney Docket No.: 36671-744.502

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Application of: |   | )      |                        |
|-----------------------|---|--------|------------------------|
|                       | Kenneth F. Buechler   | ))     | Group Art Unit: 1641   |
| Applic                | cation No.: 10/645,874  | )      | Examiner: Lam, Ann Y.  |
| Filed:                | August 20, 2003   | ))     | Confirmation No.: 8658 |
| For:                  | METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR<br>MEASURING BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE<br>NATRIURETIC PEPTIDES AND FOR<br>IMPROVING THEIR THERAPEUTIC<br>POTENTIAL | )))))) |                        |

ELECTRONICALLY FILED ON: August 15, 2011

## **RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

M/S Amendment Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## Dear Sir/Madam:

This communication is in response to the Office Action dated February 15, 2011. This Response is submitted after the shortened statutory period for reply, therefore an extension fee is required to enter this Amendment. This Response is accompanied by a Petition for Extension of Time under § 1.136 extending the time for response to <u>August 15, 2011</u>, and is therefore timely filed. The Examiner is authorized to charge any fees, including Extension of Time fees under § 1.136 to Deposit Account 23-2415 (Attorney Docket No. 33671-744.502).

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this response.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this response.